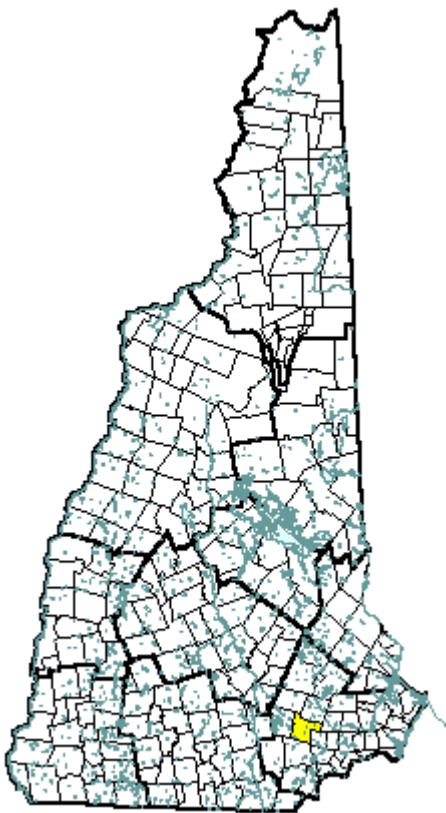


# Chester, NH



## Community Contact

Town of Chester Planning Department  
 Cynthia Robinson, Planning Coordinator  
 84 Chester St, Municipal Office Building  
 Chester, NH 03036

Telephone  
 Fax  
 E-mail  
 Web Site

(603) 887-5629  
 (603) 887-4404  
 chstrpl@gsinet.net  
 www.chesternh.org

## Municipal Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 8 am - 4 pm: Town Clerk, Tax Collector: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 8 am - 12:30 pm, and Tuesday, 8 am - 3:30 pm

## County

Rockingham

## Labor Market Area

Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion

## Tourism Region

Merrimack Valley

## Planning Commission

Southern NH

## Regional Development

Regional Economic Development Corp.

## Election Districts

US Congress  
 Executive Council  
 State Senate  
 State Representative

District 1  
 District 3  
 District 17  
 Rockingham County District 7

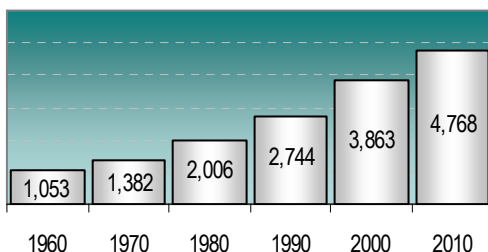
**Incorporated:** 1722

**Origin:** Chester was first known as the chestnut country, and may have been the first of the settlement grants by the Governor of Massachusetts in 1722 for expansion of New Hampshire's seacoast settlements. Many new settlers were from Hampton, Newbury, Kingston, and Portsmouth, which were considered overcrowded. Settlers were required to plant, build houses, lay out roads, and construct a church and schoolhouse, or they would forfeit the land. The name Chester apparently came from Cheshire County in England, whose county seat is Chester, and Earl of Chester is a title held by the Prince of Wales. The towns of Auburn, Candia, Derryfield (renamed Manchester), Hooksett, and Raymond were later formed from Chester's original 100 square mile grant.

**Villages and Place Names:** North Chester

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 1,902 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Chester totaled 3,715 over 50 years, from 1,053 in 1960 to 4,768 in 2010. The largest decennial percent change was a 45 percent increase between 1970 and 1980; the smallest, a 23 percent increase between 2000 and 2010. The 2010 Census estimate for Chester was 4,768 residents, which ranked 73rd among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.



**Population Density and Land Area, 2010 (US Census Bureau):** 183.9 persons per square mile of land area. Chester contains 26.0 square miles of land area and 0.1 square miles of inland water area.



**MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

Type of Government	<b>Selectmen</b>
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2009	<b>\$3,543,489</b>
Budget: School Appropriations, 2009	<b>\$11,270,256</b>
Zoning Ordinance	<b>1960/11</b>
Master Plan	<b>2006</b>
Capital Improvement Plan	<b>Yes</b>
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	<b>Planning Board</b>

**Boards and Commissions**

Elected:	<b>Selectmen; Library; Budget</b>
Appointed:	<b>Planning; Zoning; Conservation; Recreation</b>

Public Library **Chester Public**

**EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Police Department	<b>Full-time</b>
Fire Department	<b>Full &amp; part-time</b>
Emergency Medical Service	<b>Municipal</b>

Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds
<b>Parkland Medical Center, Derry</b>	<b>7 miles</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Elliot Hospital, Manchester</b>	<b>11 miles</b>	<b>264</b>

**UTILITIES**

Electric Supplier	<b>PSNH; NH Electric Coop</b>
Natural Gas Supplier	<b>None</b>
Water Supplier	<b>Private wells</b>

Sanitation	<b>Private septic</b>
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	<b>No</b>
Solid Waste Disposal	
Curbside Trash Pickup	<b>Private</b>
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	<b>No</b>
Recycling Program	<b>Mandatory</b>

Telephone Company	<b>Granite State; Fairpoint</b>
Cellular Telephone Access	<b>Yes</b>
Cable Television Access	<b>Yes</b>
Public Access Television Station	<b>Yes</b>
High Speed Internet Service:	
Business	<b>Yes</b>
Residential	<b>Yes</b>

**PROPERTY TAXES** *(NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)*

2010 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$18.79</b>
2010 Equalization Ratio	<b>119.4</b>
2010 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$22.30</b>

2010 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	<b>94.3%</b>
Commercial Land and Buildings	<b>2.1%</b>
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	<b>3.6%</b>

**HOUSING** *(ACS 2006-2010)*

Total Housing Units	<b>1,624</b>
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	<b>1,606</b>
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	<b>8</b>
Five or More Units in Structure	<b>0</b>
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	<b>10</b>

**DEMOGRAPHICS***(US Census Bureau)*

Total Population	Community	County
2010	<b>4,768</b>	<b>295,223</b>
2000	<b>3,863</b>	<b>278,748</b>
1990	<b>2,744</b>	<b>246,744</b>
1980	<b>2,006</b>	<b>190,345</b>
1970	<b>1,382</b>	<b>138,951</b>

**Demographics, American Community Survey (ACS) 2006-2010****Population by Gender**

Male	<b>2,176</b>	Female	<b>2,457</b>
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**Population by Age Group**

Under age 5	<b>290</b>
Age 5 to 19	<b>1,121</b>
Age 20 to 34	<b>442</b>
Age 35 to 54	<b>1,865</b>
Age 55 to 64	<b>633</b>
Age 65 and over	<b>282</b>
Median Age	<b>39.8 years</b>

**Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over**

High school graduate or higher	<b>95.2%</b>
Bachelor's degree or higher	<b>40.3%</b>

**INCOME, 2010 INFLATION ADJUSTED \$** *(ACS 2006-2010)*

Per capita income	<b>\$38,741</b>
Median 4-person family income	<b>\$104,227</b>
Median household income	<b>\$99,970</b>

**Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers**

Male	<b>\$72,400</b>
Female	<b>\$55,852</b>

Families below the poverty level **0.8%**

**LABOR FORCE** *(NHES - ELMI)*

Annual Average	2000	2010
Civilian labor force	<b>2,212</b>	<b>2,709</b>
Employed	<b>2,156</b>	<b>2,553</b>
Unemployed	<b>56</b>	<b>156</b>
Unemployment rate	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>5.8%</b>

**EMPLOYMENT & WAGES** *(NHES - ELMI)*

Annual Average Covered Employment	2000	2010
Goods Producing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>65</b>	<b>78</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$1,021</b>	<b>\$875</b>
Service Providing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>181</b>	<b>250</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$720</b>	<b>\$608</b>
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	<b>245</b>	<b>327</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$799</b>	<b>\$671</b>
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	<b>89</b>	<b>198</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$492</b>	<b>\$560</b>
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	<b>334</b>	<b>525</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$717</b>	<b>\$629</b>

n = indicates that data does not meet disclosure standards

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE***(NH Dept. of Education)*

Schools students attend: **Chester operates grades K-8; grades 9-12 are tuitioned to Pinkerton Academy (Derry)** District: **SAU 82**

Career Technology Center(s): **Pinkerton Academy, Derry; Salem High School Vocational Center** Region: **17**

Educational Facilities	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools	<b>1</b>			
Grade Levels	<b>P K 1-8</b>			
Total Enrollment	<b>615</b>			

2011 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (*DHHS – Bureau of Child Care Licensing*): Total Facilities: **3** Total Capacity: **41**

Nearest Community/Technical College: **Manchester; Nashua**

Nearest Colleges or Universities: **Chester College of New England; Hesser; Southern NH University; UNH-Manchester**

<b>LARGEST BUSINESSES</b>	<b>PRODUCT/SERVICE</b>	<b>EMPLOYEES</b>	<b>ESTABLISHED</b>
Chester College of New England	Education	61	1967
Stone Machine Co., Inc.	Machine shop	15	1980

**TRANSPORTATION** (*distances estimated from city/town hall*)

Road Access	US Routes	
	State Routes	<b>102, 121, 121A</b>
Nearest Interstate, Exit		<b>I-93, Exit 4</b>
	Distance	<b>8 miles</b>
Railroad		<b>No</b>
Public Transportation		<b>CART</b>
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation		
<b>Manchester-Boston Regional</b>	Runway	<b>9,250 ft. asphalt</b>
Lighted? <b>Yes</b>	Navigation Aids?	<b>Yes</b>
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service		
<b>Manchester-Boston Regional</b>	Distance	<b>15 miles</b>
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport		<b>6</b>
Driving distance to select cities:		
Manchester, NH		<b>14 miles</b>
Portland, Maine		<b>86 miles</b>
Boston, Mass.		<b>49 miles</b>
New York City, NY		<b>254 miles</b>
Montreal, Quebec		<b>269 miles</b>

**COMMUTING TO WORK** (*ACS 2006-2010*)

Workers 16 years and over	
Drove alone, car/truck/van	<b>83.0%</b>
Carpooled, car/truck/van	<b>8.9%</b>
Public transportation	<b>0.4%</b>
Walked	<b>0.0%</b>
Other means	<b>2.0%</b>
Worked at home	<b>5.6%</b>
Mean Travel Time to Work	<b>34.1 minutes</b>
<b>Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2006-2010</b>	
Working in community of residence	<b>11.5%</b>
Commuting to another NH community	<b>69.2%</b>
Commuting out-of-state	<b>19.3%</b>

**RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS**

<b>X</b>	Municipal Parks
	YMCA/YWCA
	Boys Club/Girls Club
	Golf Courses
	Swimming: Indoor Facility
	Swimming: Outdoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
	Bowling Facilities
	Museums
	Cinemas
	Performing Arts Facilities
	Tourist Attractions
<b>X</b>	Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)
<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Baseball
<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Soccer
	Youth Sports: Football
<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Basketball
	Youth Sports: Hockey
	Campgrounds
<b>X</b>	Fishing/Hunting
<b>X</b>	Boating/Marinas
	Snowmobile Trails
	Bicycle Trails
	Cross Country Skiing
<b>X</b>	Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
<b>X</b>	Overnight or Day Camps
	Nearest Ski Area(s): <b>McIntyre</b>
	Other: